

New mining policy

*75. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting of Chief Ministers of States was held recently in Delhi;
- "(b) if so, the details of discussion held in the meeting;
- (c) whether some Chief Ministers have serious doubts about the new mining policy; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to clear their apprehensions?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRJ SIS RAM OLA): (a) Chief Ministers were also invited to attend the meeting of Mineral Advisory Council held on 6.11.2006

- (b) and (c) Views on the recommendations of Hoda Committee were expressed by State Governments, industry and other members of the Mineral Advisory Council.
- (d) Central Government will finalize the proposed changes in the mining policy after considering the issues raised in the aforesaid meeting.

Abandoning of textbooks by NCERT

*76. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for abandoning the 'Science and Technology' series textbooks of VI standard to X standard by NCERT;
- (b) whether it is fact that the new science book hurriedly prepared by NCERT for VI standard is very rudimentary and very much a backtrack of the previous 'Science and Technology' book which was a bold initiative to impart science to students in a detailed and effective manner at the high school level;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for diluting science education to students at the crucial age; and